



OptTEST Kick-off Meeting. 2nd Sept 2014  
*Jean Monet Building,  
EU Commission,  
Luxembourg*

WP4  
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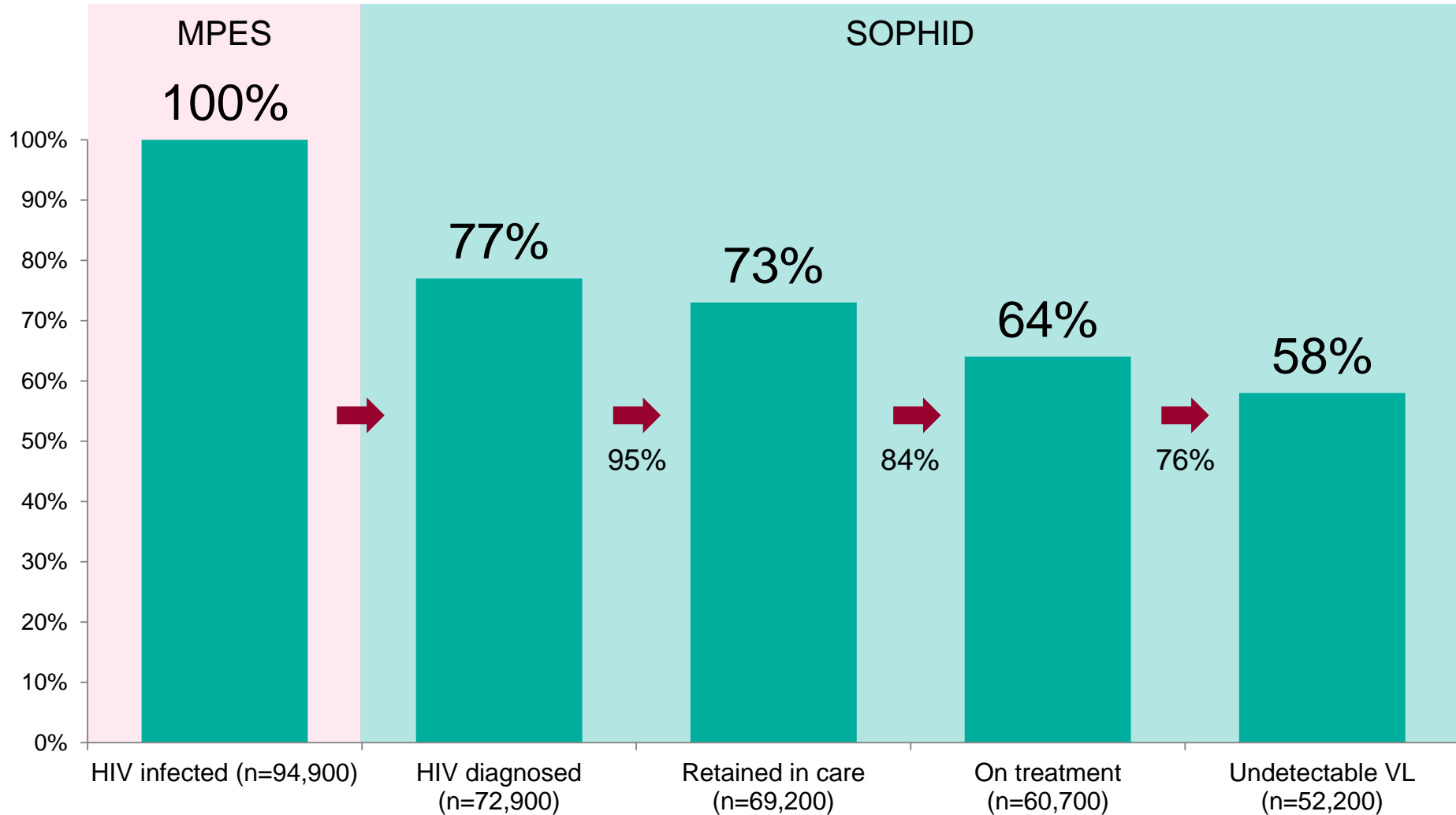
Author(s)

# Background

- Good evidence that prompt testing and treatment leads to good outcomes
- Currently few countries routinely monitor HIV quality of care.
- Few published data on link to and retention in HIV care from the European Union
- The treatment cascade concept (or better termed the continuum of care cascade) is useful in demonstrating how successfully persons living with HIV infection are diagnosed, linked to and subsequently treated in healthcare settings.
- Work Package 4 explores and documents linkage to and retention in HIV care, and access to therapy in Europe using a number of strategies.



# Treatment cascade of adults living with HIV: United Kingdom, 2011



# Work details

## Phase 1

- Literature review of and available HIV quality of care measures with specific focus on:
  - linkage to and retention in HIV healthcare, and levels of treatment uptake.
  - Any stigma and legal/criminalization barriers to linkage to care (with WP7)

## Phase 2

- develop standard definitions for linkage to and retention in care
- Obtain consensus from key stakeholders and experts in the field
- Assessment of the effectiveness and cost effectiveness of these tools (with WP6).

## Phase 3

- Piloting of approved case definitions and methodologies for measuring linkage to and retention in HIV care following HIV diagnosis in UK, France, Estonia, Spain, Poland, Greece, and Czech Republic (with WP5)

# Deliverables

- Literature reviews
- Scientific report showing comparable ‘treatment cascade’ for countries across Europe.
- best-practice guidelines and tools to help secure improved linkage to care following HIV testing and diagnosis
- A final evaluation stage will focus on quantifying the uptake of these guidelines in practice